



# News from the CITY OF CARMEL

For the Citizens of Carmel

Volume 1 • 2006

## Mayor Brainard Delivers State of the City Address



Mayor Jim Brainard outlined the City's long term goals and its accomplishments in his State of the City address to the Carmel Clay Chamber of Commerce in November. In his speech the Mayor highlighted the City's long range plan. In particular, he noted

- **Establishing a downtown for Carmel with the new City Center**
- **Revitalizing Old Town with the new Arts and Design District**

- **Instituting new urbanism principles with the Village of West Clay**
- **Educating City leaders and administrators with the Design Initiative**

"After formulating a plan, it is paramount to employ the best and the brightest to accomplish the goals," he said. A strong measure of success is the multiple awards the City's leaders, administrators, directors, programs and services

have received for excellence. He mentioned that Fire Chief Doug Callahan was asked to sit on a national committee, the Water Plant received a water quality award from the Indiana Department of Health, the City's Arbor Day program won the Gold Leaf Award--the International Society of Arboriculture's highest award, and 116th Street won the Engineering Excellence Award from the American Council of Engineering Excellence to name a few.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Carmel Comes in Under Budget

Prudent spending by city departments and strong management of the city's money brought the City of Carmel more than \$2 million under budget in its general fund at the close of 2005, bringing the fund balance to \$6 million.

The majority of the \$2 million

returned to the budget was the result of under spending by city departments. The remainder of the \$6 million balance was from revenues coming in above projections and the previous fund's balance.

While the general fund balance at the end of 2005 was \$6 million, the balance of all city funds is \$36 million. Wise fiscal management has allowed Carmel's taxes to remain low, while providing excellent city services to residents.

"The city is committed to providing services, improving infrastructure and managing positive growth as cost efficient as possible," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "City departments coming in under budget is evidence of our dedication to this philosophy."

## Carmel's Clay Middle School Achieves Blue Ribbon Status

Carmel's Clay Middle School was named a Blue Ribbon School, an honor that recognizes outstanding schools nationwide. The criteria schools must meet to achieve this award include the four pillars of accountability, doing what works based on scientific evidence, expanded parental options and expanded local control and flexibility.

Mayor Brainard recognized this outstanding accomplishment with a proclamation declaring November 29, 2005, Clay Middle School Blue Ribbon Day.



In his proclamation, Mayor Brainard said, "I ask the City of Carmel and the community to join me in congratulating the students, teachers and administrators whose hard work and dedication have earned them the honor of being one of the top middle schools in the state of Indiana and the United States."

### Inside this issue:

#### Pages

- 2 Carmel Government
- 3 Community Events
- 4 Carmel Government
- 5 Of Interest
- 6 Community Events Parks & Recreation
- 7 Community Events
- 8 Upcoming 2006 Meetings

## A Message from the Mayor

**H**appy New Year from the City of Carmel!! This year will bring us even closer to realizing our vision for Carmel. Already, we can see the Carmel Arts and Design District and the Carmel City Center taking shape. Much of our progress can be attributed to the work of talented people. We have a team of hard working, dedicated city employees, and we are blessed with a strong core of volunteers and partners.

In this issue of News from the City of Carmel, my State of the City address to the Carmel Clay Chamber of Commerce outlines the goals of the city and our progress toward achieving those goals. Veterans Day and Holiday on the Square photos remember two annual community celebrations that serve to connect Carmel citizens. In addition, Carmel received recognition for its efforts to make the city a bicycle friendly community.

I want our future to be teamwork at its finest, working hand-in-hand with the community to make this City the very best place to call home. As always, please feel free to e-mail or call me with any comments you may have concerning our community. I welcome your input.

Sincerely,



Mayor Jim Brainard



Mayor Jim Brainard

## State of the City — continued

The numbers look good too. In his speech, he highlighted that Carmel has the lowest

tax rates in the state for a city its size or larger. It recently received strong bond ratings from Moody's and Standard and Poors. The sewer and water rates continue to be low.

Implementing best practices and the newest technology has been at the forefront this year, he pointed out. To reduce the gas consumption and improve the quality of air in the community, the City purchased hybrid vehicles for its fleet. To improve safety at intersections and streamline traffic flow, the City continues to use roundabouts whenever possible.

In his speech, he also noted how different departments and committees are implementing the vision. For example, the Carmel Redevelopment Commission has made great strides in creating the Carmel Arts and Design District with new signage and a Holiday Open House. He also pointed out the accomplishments of

*"The results are clear, the City is clearly making strides towards its vision. We could not do it without our partners and strong community support."*

Mayor Jim Brainard

the police, fire, utilities, parks and recreation, and community relations such

as the installation of a new water tower, the civilian police academy, community events that encourage togetherness and the new Central Park.

In his concluding remarks, the Mayor noted signs of a healthy community are everywhere. The City is enjoying renewed economic development with Clay Terrace, Clarian North Medical Center and Bazbeaux Pizza to name a few. Furthermore the design guidelines instituted in Carmel Arts and Design District have led to increased property values in Old Town and surrounding areas. The redevelopment on Rangeline Road gives a new look to the area's longtime establishments.

"The results are clear," said Mayor Brainard. "The City is clearly making strides towards its vision. We could not do it without our partners and strong community support."



Adam Harrington

## Rotary Sponsors Officer's Trip

Carmel Firefighter Adam Harrington is traveling to Mexico as part of a Group Exchange Program of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Carmel, Harrington will travel in Mexico for a month beginning in mid-April. The program provides travel grants for

young professional teams to visit different countries. For four to six weeks Harrington will study the host country's institutions and culture, observe his own occupation as practiced in Mexico and develop personal and professional relationships during his tour.

Harrington is not fluent in

Spanish, but looks forward to sharpening his language skills and the opportunity for an extended visit in Mexico, learning the way of its people and culture. He will travel to Mexico City and towns such as Toluca, Atizapan, Xocimilco, Coyoacan, Ecatepec, Texcoco, Chapultepec, and Churubasco.

# Veterans Day Ceremony Recognizes Local Veterans

Carmel Veterans Day ceremony held at the Steven Coutts Fire Headquarters at Civic Square remembered and recognized local veterans. Many from the community participated. Retired U.S. Army Colonel Reverend Joseph Flatt of First Baptist Church offered the invocation. Retired U.S. Marine Corp Colonel Robert Book led the Pledge of Allegiance. Carmel Elementary choir performed patriotic music.

To encourage meaningful discussion about Veterans Day

between students and their parents and teachers, the city held a poster contest for local elementary schools and an essay contest for area junior and senior high schools. The theme this year was "Support Our Troops."

Finalists for the poster contest were chosen by grade level from each participating school, and their posters were on display at the Veterans Day ceremony. Winners of the essay contest were asked to read their essays during the ceremony, and

### The following elementary school students won the Veterans Day poster contest:

Kindergarten	Nicholas Kalyvas	Cherry Creek Elementary
First Grade	Kathleen Ho	Town Meadow Elementary
Second Grade	Susana Peredo-Muniz	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Third Grade	Katie Webb	Forest Dale Elementary
Fourth Grade	Natalie Eastes	Woodbrook Elementary
Fifth Grade	Rachel Chen	Towne Meadow Elementary

### The following middle and high school students won the Veterans Day essay contest:

Sixth Grade	Ray Qian	Clay Middle School
Seventh Grade	Devin Surface	Creekside Middle School
Eighth Grade	Nicole Jones	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Ninth Grade	Beth Brookie	Carmel High School
Sophomore	Adam Skolnik	Academy Plus
Junior	Andy Glaser	Carmel High School
Senior	Andrew Taylor	Academy Plus



each received a certificate of achievement from the Mayor.

Retired United States Marine Corp Lieutenant General Carol Mutter addressed the audience. With more than 31 years of experience in the U.S. Marine Corps, she accomplished many firsts for women during her tenure. She was the first female Marine Major General and the first woman nominated by the United States President for three-star rank.

"I am honored to recognize these men and women in our armed forces," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "And I am pleased to take part in a special ceremony that honors those who have served our country."



Many from the community participated in Carmel's Veterans Day ceremony.



One hundred representatives from Sacramento, CA, visited Carmel in October to learn more about the City's Urban Design Initiative and plans for the City Center and Arts and Design District.

## Communities Visit Carmel for Ideas

Sacramento, CA, and Chesterton, IN, sent representatives to Carmel to gather ideas for future development in their cities. They met with City officials and Brenwick Properties CEO George Sweet to learn more about how Carmel developed the City Center project and Arts and Design District. The

communities were also interested in Carmel's Urban Design Initiative. Sacramento and Chesterton representatives returned home with ideas to implement similar concepts in their cities. "It is very exciting to have other communities looking to Carmel as a forward thinking example," said Mayor Jim Brainard.



Representatives from the Town of Chesterton, IN, listened to a morning presentation by Mayor Jim Brainard and Director of Community Services Mike Hollibaugh about Planning and Zoning.



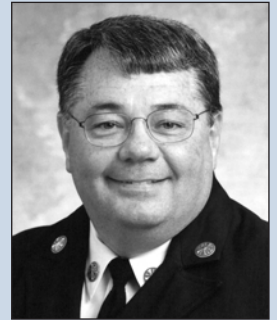
## Chief Callahan Invited to Sit on National Advisory Committee

Carmel Fire Chief, Doug Callahan, has been invited to sit on the Advisory Committee to the National Task Force on Community Preparedness and Response. The mission of the advisory

committee is to advise the task force on how to best create a plan for America's local government and community leaders to strengthen homeland security.

As a charter member, Chief Callahan was asked to attend

the formation meeting of advisory committee in Washington, D.C. in November. "This is a great honor," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "I want to encourage Chief Callahan to participate as fully as possible."



**Chief Doug Callahan**

## Blanchard Named New Building Commissioner for Carmel

Jim Blanchard, who previously had been a building inspector and deputy building commissioner for Carmel, was named the City's new building commissioner.

His knowledge of the construction industry and his history with the City of Carmel made him an ideal candidate for the position. The building commissioner's responsibilities include overseeing building and code enforcement in the City as well as speaking publicly about construction and code enforcement issues.



**Jim Blanchard**

"There is no one else in this region who has more overall knowledge and who is more trusted in this area," said Mike Hollibaugh, director of community services.

## Rick Sharp Elected City Council President

Rick Sharp was recently elected 2006 Council President. He has served on the council as a representative for District One since 2004.

Formerly, a resident of Florida, Rick moved to Carmel in 1992 and has been actively involved in the community since then. He has been on the board of directors and served as president of neighborhood associations; he has been a member of the Carmel Clay Plan Commission for four years; he has been a Republican Precinct chair in Hamilton County and he has served on the Carmel Redevelopment Commission. "Rick has been an active participant in helping guide the growth and development of this community," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "He will provide good leadership as president of the City Council in the new year."



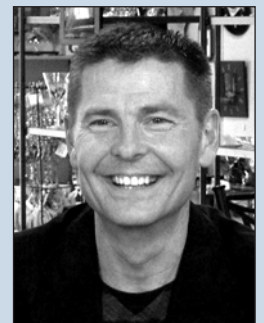
**Rick Sharp**

**Carmel's New  
Web Site Address**  
**[www.carmel.in.gov](http://www.carmel.in.gov)**

## Worrell Honored at Chamber Meeting

Jeff Worrell received the Most Valuable Volunteer (MV<sup>2</sup>) award at the Carmel Clay Chamber of Commerce award luncheon on Wednesday, December 14, 2005.

Worrell hosts the City's "Connecting with Carmel" cable show and coordinates the city's volunteer initiative, "Carmel Can."



**Jeff Worrell**

## Holiday on the Square

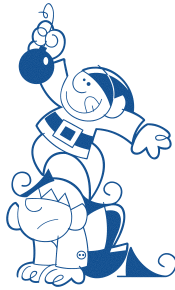


Once again, Holiday on the Square provided an opportunity for the Carmel community to gather and celebrate the holiday season with its neighbors, visitors and friends.

At dusk, Mayor Jim Brainard lit the lights on Civic Square to usher in the 2005 holidays.

Visitors enjoyed entertainment provided by Clay Middle School, the Carmel Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet and the Central Indiana Dance Ensemble.

"Our community is fortunate to have businesses and individuals willing to volunteer time and money to support Holiday on the Square," said Mayor Brainard. "We are very grateful for their generous support." Sponsors included, Meijer, Aspen Prairie Homes, AMLI Residential, Bright House Networks, Buckingham Properties, Chic-Fil-A at Castleton Square, Chipotle, Clarian North Medical Center, Crossroads Engineers, Douglas Haney and family, Marsh, the McCune family, Meridian Music, Pedcor Companies, Ryland Homes, St. Vincent



## Of Interest



Carmel Hospital, Shapiro's Delicatessen, Sign-a-rama, Simon Property Group, Starbucks, TrusJoist, and Vine and Branch.



## Water Tower Receives Concrete Achievement Award

The Indiana Ready Mix Concrete Association awarded the Carmel water tower and office project the outstanding concrete achievement award.

The new water tower was erected at 131st Street and Shelborne Road to provide better water pressure in northwest Clay Township and provide for future growth. The new tower holds two million gallons of water. In addition, Carmel Utilities will occupy five floors of office space built in the pedestal of the water tower. The tower was paid for out of savings and a federal earmark.

## Carmel High Students To Paint Mural Downtown

Carmel High School art students are beginning preliminary work on a mural they will design and paint on the outside wall of the Carmel Antique Mall, located on the north side of Main Street next to the World's Smallest Children's Art Gallery. Under the direction of art teacher Michael Lee, the students are developing a design that incorporates the Carmel Arts and Design District concept. The design will be presented to the Carmel Arts Council committee for final approval.

The Carmel High School art department will receive a \$500

grant in the name of the nine art students working on the project. The grant was made possible by a contribution from Ruth Houghton and another anonymous donor. The art students working on the project are Ed Cabral, Kate Emery, Tatyana Figlina, Haylee Heisel, Austin Hoesman, Emily Kallas, Brandon Richardson, Lisa Sangiorgio, and Anastasia Zhukova.

"This is a wonderful way for our young artists to use their talent to benefit the community," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "The mural will be a beautiful addition to the Carmel Arts and Design District."

## Community Events

### Upcoming Parks Events



#### What's Happening at the Parks

For more information about these events and other park activities call the Recreation Programmer at 848-7275 or access the parks website at [www.carmelclayparks.com](http://www.carmelclayparks.com)

#### March

How "fly" is your ride?

Do you like to show off your wheels? Does your car stand out from the rest?

If you answered yes, then this event is for you....Showcase your ride! Call 848.7275 for more information.

**Date:** March 25th

**Time:** 10 a.m.-noon

**Fee:** \$10 per category

\$3 spectators 12 & up day of event

Vehicle Registration is required

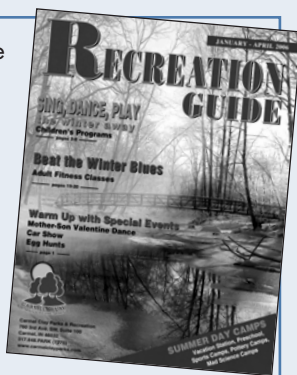


#### Volunteers Needed!!

Carmel Clay Parks and Recreation has volunteer opportunities for the community to be involved in all aspects of the Department's activities. To find out more, call the Parks Department at 848-7275 or go on-line at [www.carmelclayparks.com](http://www.carmelclayparks.com).

Winter/Spring 2006 Recreation Guide for program and events January through April 2006 is now available. Programs include preschool classes, youth classes, a preview and early-bird registration for summer day camps, calligraphy, adult fitness classes, youth dance, tumbling and unique trips.

To obtain a new recreation guide, call the Parks Department 848-7275 or view it on-line at [www.carmelclayparks.com](http://www.carmelclayparks.com).



## Carmel Receives Bicycle Friendly Award

Carmel's progress towards becoming a bicycle friendly city was recognized with an honorable mention by the League of American Bicyclists. Carmel received the award for its efforts to encourage bicycle use as a means of alternative transportation expanding as well as connecting the trail system in the community.

"We are encouraged by the recognition the League has given Carmel," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "We plan to continue to improve access for bicycles and make connectivity of the trail system a priority."

The League of American Bicyclist also offered suggestions for Carmel as it continues to build a more bicycle friendly community including expanding education, enforcement, and engineering programs to increase bicycle use throughout the community. In addition to



the League's suggestions, Carmel plans to continue work on implementing the bike plan with emphasis on the bike lane network along the city's main streets and expansion of the trail network.

## Carmel Clay Library Ranked in Top Ten Nationwide

Once again, the Carmel Clay Public Library is ranked among the top ten libraries According to the 2005 Hennen's American Public Library Ratings (HAPLR), the library placed sixth out of 530 libraries in its category.

"We are delighted to be ranked in the top 10 again this year," commented Wendy Phillips, library director. "Our community values the library and our staff works very hard to provide patrons exceptional service."

The HAPLR ratings compare libraries within each population category based on 15 measures including circulation numbers, hours open, volumes owned, materials expenditures, reference assistance and number of visitors.

"The library is a valuable resource in our community," said Mayor Jim Brainard. "The library board and staff work diligently to provide this premier facility, which contributes to the City's desirability."



*Busy days at the Carmel library.*



# Arts and Design District Hosts New Holiday Event

The Carmel community celebrated the holiday season at "Holiday in the Arts District" in the Carmel Arts and Design District. The first annual event, sponsored by the Old Town Arts and Design Merchants Association, provided an opportunity for visitors to get acquainted with the merchants and shops in the new district.

Luminaries lit the paths to the district's stores. Artwork



from area residents was on display in stores. Musicians, choirs, prize drawings and a candlelight tour of the Museum of Miniatures provided plenty of entertainment. Mayor Jim Brainard

unveiled a new statue in the Arts and Design District. "This is an exciting time for Carmel's new Arts and Design District," said the Mayor. "This is the first annual event to showcase the new development going on in this district."



**Mayor Jim Brainard unveiled a new statue, along the Monon, in the Arts and Design District at the "Holiday in the Arts District" celebration in December.**



**"First Ride" by J. Seward Johnson**

## Community Events

**There is a lot going on in the City.  
Advertise your events on Carmel's  
website community calendar.**

### Carmel's Website Community Calendar

Please notify Doreen Squire Ficara at dsfcarmelarts@aol.com to post any of the following events on Carmel's website community calendar:

- **Fundraising events**
- **Public sporting events such as Solheim Cup or Tornados football**
- **Nonprofit events**
- **Annual church events, no weekly services**
- **Arts events**
- **Civic group events**
- **Service Club events**

**For more event information, visit the  
"Community Calendar" on the city's website  
at [www.carmel.in.gov](http://www.carmel.in.gov).**

## Smoking Ban Takes Effect in March

Carmel's new no-smoking ordinance takes effect on Sunday, March 5, 2006. The ordinance, similar to the Marion County ordinance taking effect March 1, 2006, will prohibit smoking in most public places. The new law recognizes the serious harm from second hand smoke confirmed in medical studies, as well as the right of non-smokers to breathe smoke-free air.

## Long Beach Update

Shortly after Hurricane Katrina, the City of Carmel adopted the City of Long Beach, Mississippi, to aid them in their disaster recovery effort. The devastation experienced by the community was severe, and there is still much work to be done. The City is still coordinating initiatives to help Long Beach recover. To find out how you can continue to aid this community, go to [www.carmel.in.gov](http://www.carmel.in.gov) and click on Hurricane Katrina Relief.

# Upcoming 2006 Meetings

## City Council Meeting Dates

The City Council meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall

Monday, March 6  
Monday, March 20

## Board of Public Works & Safety Meetings

The Board of Public Works meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month in the Council Chambers at City Hall

Wednesday, March 1  
Wednesday, March 15  
Wednesday, April 5

**Watch City Council meetings live on Channel 16. Channel 21 replays City Council meetings every Tuesday at 7 p.m.**

**Check the City of Carmel website at [www.carmel.in.gov](http://www.carmel.in.gov) for events, traffic updates and news.**

## Carmel's New Web Site Address

[www.carmel.in.gov](http://www.carmel.in.gov)



## News from the City of Carmel

One Civic Square  
Carmel, Indiana 46032-7569  
(317) 571-2400

This publication is intended for residents and businesses in the City of Carmel. Postal carrier routes may exceed city limits.

## City Officials

### Carmel's City Council

#### Rick Sharp

District 1, Council President  
Email: [rsharp@carmel.in.gov](mailto:rsharp@carmel.in.gov)  
Cell phone: (317) 417-5047

#### Kevin Kirby District 2

Email: [kkirby@carmel.in.gov](mailto:kkirby@carmel.in.gov)  
Cell phone: (317) 710-0161

#### Ronald Carter At-Large

Email: [rcarter@carmel.in.gov](mailto:rcarter@carmel.in.gov)  
Cell phone: (317) 710-0162

#### Mark Rattermann At-Large

Email: [mrattermann@carmel.in.gov](mailto:mrattermann@carmel.in.gov)  
Phone: (317) 848-9360

#### Brian Mayo District 3

Email: [bmayo@carmel.in.gov](mailto:bmayo@carmel.in.gov)  
Cell phone: (317) 340-8937

#### Joe Griffiths District 4

Email: [jgriffiths@carmel.in.gov](mailto:jgriffiths@carmel.in.gov)  
Cell phone: (317) 417-5048

#### Fred Glaser

District 5, Council Vice President  
Email: [fglaser@carmel.in.gov](mailto:fglaser@carmel.in.gov)  
Cell phone: (317) 714-8908

### City Court Judge

#### Gail Bardach

Office: 571-2440

### Clerk-Treasurer

#### Diana L. Cordray

Office: 571-2414  
Email: [dcordray@carmel.in.gov](mailto:dcordray@carmel.in.gov)

## News from the City of Carmel

### City Hall

One Civic Square  
Carmel, Indiana 46032  
(317) 571-2401 office  
[www.carmel.in.gov](http://www.carmel.in.gov)

Hours: Monday - Friday  
8 - 5 p.m.

### City Court Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - Noon  
1 - 4 p.m.

### Mayor's Office

Mayor James Brainard  
office: (317) 571-2401  
email:  
[jbrainard@carmel.in.gov](mailto:jbrainard@carmel.in.gov)

*This newsletter is a publication of the City of Carmel. Please send your comments, suggestions and news items to City Hall.*

©2006

Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage

**PAID**

CARMEL, IN  
Permit No. 654